

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Cuba

REPORT NO. CSCI-315/00687-64

SUBJECT Benigno Carlos CASTELLAR Sanchez

DATE DISTR. 18 August 1964

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REFERENCES

DATE OF 1964

INFO.

PLACE 1 Washington, D. C.

DATE ACC. AUGUST 1964

FIELD REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE: A former Cuban IS officer who served with the Cuban Intelligence Service until April 1964

Headquarters Comments

The following report is one of a series containing personality information provided by the source and includes supplemental information from the records of this Agency.

It is requested that the addressees take no action on any of the individuals mentioned in the personality reports without first checking with this Agency.

1. Benigno Carlos CASTELLAR Sanchez was seen in Cuba by source prior to April 1964. Previously CASTELLAR was in Mexico on behalf of the Direccion General de Inteligencia (General Directorate of Intelligence - DGI). It is not known for sure if he was chief of the DGI in Mexico, but he was at least a DGI officer there. It is believed that he is still connected with the DGI.
2. CASTELLAR was born about 1936, is tall, weighs about 155 pounds, has a strong build, black hair and black eyes. 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8

Headquarters Comments

1. The records of this Agency reveal that on the night of 7 September 1958, one Benigno CASTELLAR Sanchez, possibly identical with the above Subject, was one of twenty-seven Cubans attending a meeting at the home of Emilio Alfredo de Jesus ARAGONES y Navarro, a Cuban exile, at Atoyac 25, Mexico, D. F. This information is documentary.
2. A source, untested, in a report dated 29 October 1962, stated that one Benigno CASTELLAR, the Cuban Commercial

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| W/S/FOB 1 | WE/5/R | 1 | CI/LIA | 2 | CI/CA/ADA | 1 | IX-1637; V-228 |
| W/S/FOB 1 | WE/4/ADR | 2 | CI/R&A | 2 | CI/BRITISH II | 1 | NO PROJECT (AMUC 1) |
| W/S/FOB 1 | | | | | WASH 552 II | 1 | CSCI-315/00687-64 |
| W/S/CI 4 | | | RID/AN | | | | |
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Attache in Mexico and possibly identical with Benigno Carlos CASTELLAR Sanchez, was responsible for buying products in Mexico for Cuban use.

A 10 February 1963, report stated that Benigno CASTELLAR Sanchez was the Cuban Commercial Attache in Mexico and a suspected G-2 agent.

4. Benigno Carlos CASTELLAR Sanchez, Cuban Commercial Attache, departed Mexico for Habana via Cuban Airlines on 22 March 1963, with his wife and child. He stated that he expected to return to Mexico. This information was received on 25 March 1963, from a fairly reliable source. A report dated 13 June 1963, stated that CASTELLAR returned to Mexico on 4 June 1963.
5. A usually reliable source, in a report dated 17 June 1963, stated that Benigno CASTELLAR Sanchez, the Commercial Attache of the Cuban Embassy in Mexico and in charge of buying, was being replaced by Oscar CONCEPCION Mendoza. CONCEPCION was expected to arrive in Mexico City on 17 June 1963, and CASTELLAR planned to leave fifteen days later.
6. The following biographic information on Benigno Carlos CASTELLAR Sanchez was received by a representative of this Agency in Mexico in a report dated 27 June 1963:

Benigno Carlos CASTELLAR Sanchez, the Commercial Attache at the Cuban Embassy in Mexico, was born about 1940. He carried passport number D/62/479. His wife, Ada MARTINEZ Fernandez de Castellar, carried passport number D/62/528. His son, Rafael CASTELLAR MARTINEZ, carried passport number D/63/4. CASTELLAR arrived in Mexico on 27 August 1962, and resided at Alvaro Obregon 123-605, Mexico, D. F. He was a suspected G-2 Agent.

7. A usually reliable source with good access to travel information reported that on 27 August 1963, Benigno CASTELLAR, diplomatic passport number 62/479; Ada MARTINEZ, diplomatic passport number 62/528; and Rafael CASTELLAR, infant diplomatic passport number 62/528, left Mexico City for Habana.
8. In a report dated August 1963, from a group of Cuban emigre's trained in the techniques of information collection and who have provided useful reports for two years, provided the following information on Benigno CASTELLAR Sanchez:

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A Commercial Attache at the Cuban Embassy in Mexico, born about 1937, is five feet ten inches tall, 180 pounds, white, with black hair and black eyes. He has a strong athletic build and wore a large but well trimmed mustache. CASTELLAR is a serious, very quiet, discreet, and intelligent man and was frequently in the company of Carlos RODRIGUEZ Yauget. He was an active member of the Departamento de Seguridad del Estado (Department of State Security - DSE) until he was appointed Commercial Attache. He was always armed with a pistol.

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